CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: IMG_1048

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 1900598.044

Medium: Video File

Producer: Not stated

Country of origin: Not stated

Language: Not applicable

Applicant: Commissioner of Police

Classification: Unrestricted.

Excisions: No excisions recommended

Descriptive note: None

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 19 February 2020

Date of direction to issue a label: No direction to issue a label has been issued

Date of notice of decision: 19 February 2020

	Components	Running time
Feature(s):	IMG_1048	0:17
Total running time:		0:17

Summary of reasons for decision:

'IMG_1048' is an amateur video filmed by a member of the crowd who have gathered in a grassy clearing to watch a water buffalo fight, the beginnings of which are depicted. The video appears to be filmed in a South East Asian location, possibly Vietnam where water buffalo fighting is a popular but controversial spectacle. Although many viewers in New Zealand are likely to find the practice cruel, it is a well-established tradition in that part of the world. The practice can be considered analogous to bullfighting. This context serves to mitigate any potential distress the footage may cause, especially to younger viewers. The Classification Office considers that the video does not deal with violence and animal cruelty to an extent or degree or in a manner that it likely to be injurious to the public good. It

is therefore, classified unrestricted. This classification is consistent with the right to freedom of expression as provided by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.